

Frankford Arsenal, Building 223
South side of Hagner Road between Mellon Street
and Ripley Street
Philadelphia
Philadelphia County
Philadelphia

HAER No. PA-74M

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
Mid-Atlantic Regional Office
National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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Location: South side of Hagner Road between Mellon Street and Ripley Street
Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania

Quad: Frankford

Date of Construction: 1918

Significance: Constructed as a railroad loading platform, Building 223 is associated with the large-scale expansion of Frankford Arsenal that resulted from the United States entry into World War I.

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HISTORY

Building 223 was constructed as an open railroad loading platform in 1918. The shed-like structure consisted of brick paving and concrete piers supporting steel columns. The side walls consisted of corrugated metal panels and large openings. The gable roof was penetrated by flat, five-light skylights. The end wall windows were segmentally arched. In 1941, the Works Progress Administration (WPA) remodeled the building for use as a storehouse. This work, which cost approximately \$60,000, entailed removal of the metal siding and construction of new concrete foundations, new brick walls, windows, and steel doors. Further minor alterations occurred throughout the 1940s and 1950s.

DESCRIPTION

Building 223 is a single story building, measuring approximately 483 feet by 27 feet. Extensively remodeled in 1941, the building presently consists of concrete foundations, brick walls, and a gabled, composition roof supported by Fink trusses. The gable end walls corbel out to accommodate the roof. Overhead steel doors are located in the end elevations. Window openings in the gable ends are rectangular, with six-over-six steel sash. Tripartite window openings in the side walls have two twelve-light sash flanking louvered vents. The interior is undivided open space.

SOURCE

John Milner Associates, "Historical and Archeological Survey of Frankford Arsenal" (West Chester, PA: John Milner Associates, (1979).

Report prepared for the Department of the Army, Baltimore District, Corps of Engineers, Baltimore, Maryland. Copies on file at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia Free Library, and the Philadelphia Historical Commission.

